

REMARKS

Objections to the claims

Claims 18-20 stand objected to for reciting a housing instead of a method. These claims have been amended to address this discrepancy.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C §112

Claims 8, 10 and 19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112 as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention. In particular, claims 8 and 19 recite an integrated circuit, which the Examiner finds to be vague because it is not clear if this is an integrated circuit that is in addition to the integrated circuit recited in claim 1 (and, presumably, 11). Applicants submit that the Examiner has misinterpreted the scope of claims 1 and 11. Claim 1, for instance, recites a base *for securing* a substrate with an integrated circuit thereon, and a body with a cavity *for receiving* the substrate. Claim 1 does not positively recite a substrate with an integrated circuit thereon, and such a substrate is not within the scope of the invention of claim 1. The language of claim 11 is similar to that of claim 1. Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that because neither claim 1 nor claim 11 recite an integrated circuit, the recitation of an integrated circuit in claims 8 and 19 is not vague, and thus request that the Examiner kindly withdraw this objection.

With regard to claim 10, Applicants have amended the claim to no longer recite a trademark. Support for the amendment can be found, *inter alia*, at page 12, paragraph 27 of the original specification. Applicants respectfully submit that this objection is now moot.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C §102

Claims 1-4, 7-19, 11-14 and 18-20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,603,193 to Crane. In particular, the Examiner finds that, with regard to claims 1 and 11, Crane discloses all of the claimed limitations. Applicants have reviewed the reference with care, paying particular attention to the passages cited, and are compelled to respectfully disagree with the Examiner's characterization of this reference. Claim

1 recites, *inter alia*, a body with a cavity for receiving the substrate and at least a portion of the top cover therein to form an enclosed housing therewith, the body including at least one connector extending from within the cavity to outside of the body and configured to contact the integrated circuit when the substrate is in the cavity. [emphasis added] The Examiner asserts that the pins (30, 32) of Crane meet this limitation. However, a careful perusal of Fig. 4 and the specification of Crane reveals that this is in fact not correct. Col. 4, ll. 22-24 of Crane teaches that “the tops of the conductive pins are exposed inside the molded body 12 and act as pads 34.” At ll. 42-48, Crane very clearly states that “other bonding conductors 54 are added to electrically connect the bonding pads 42 of the analog circuit 14 (or the bonding pads 43 of the digital circuit 18) to the pads 34 (which are at tops of the conductive pins 30). This enables electrical signals to be applied to and from the analog circuit 14 and the digital circuit 18 via the conductive pins 30.” Thus, and contrary to the Examiner’s assertion, the conductive pins of Crane are not in fact configured to contact the integrated circuit when the substrate is in the cavity, as per claims 1 and 11, but rather are configured to contact “other bonding conductors 54” which in turn electrically connect the integrated circuit to the conductive pins. Applicants therefore respectfully submit that claims 1 and 11 are in fact patentable over Crane because Crane does not disclose each and every limitation of the claims.

Claims 2 – 10 depend from claim 1, and claims 12-20 depend from claim 11. In view of the above discussion, it is submitted that claims 1 and 11 are allowable, and for this reason claims 2-10 and 12-20 are also allowable.

Applicants acknowledge with gratitude the Examiner’s indication of allowability as to claims 5-6 and 15-17. However, as detailed above, Applicants respectfully submit that all claims are in fact allowable, that the application is now in condition for allowance, and thus respectfully urge the Examiner to pass this case to issue.

Regarding the prior art made of record by the Examiner but not relied upon, Applicants believe that this art does not render the pending claims unpatentable.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required or credit overpayment to deposit account no. 12-0415. In particular, if this response is not timely filed, the Commissioner is authorized to treat this response as including a petition to extend the time period pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) requesting an extension of time of the number of months necessary to make this response timely filed and the petition fee due in connection therewith may be charged to deposit account no. 12-0415.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Post Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on

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(Date of Transmission)

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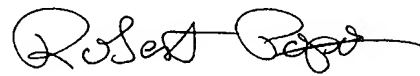


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Respectfully submitted,



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Attachments